

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A system for processing a print job of a user, the system comprising:
a print processing system registry configured to have at least one of a
5 storage capability of a print job storage provider, a processing capability of a
print job processing provider, and a printing capability of a print job print
provider registered therewith; and
a print job service provider adapted to receive the print job from the user
and distribute the print job to at least one of the print job storage provider, the
10 print job processing provider, and the print job print provider.
2. The system of claim 1, wherein the print processing system registry and
the print job service provider are configured to communicate with the at least
one of the print job storage provider, the print job processing provider, and the
15 print job print provider via a communication network, wherein the print
processing system registry is adapted to receive the at least one of the storage
capability, the processing capability, and the printing capability via the
communication network, and wherein the print job service provider is adapted to
distribute the print job to the at least one of the print job storage provider, the
20 print job processing provider, and the print job print provider via the
communication network.
3. The system of claim 1, wherein the print job service provider is adapted
to submit the print job to the print processing system registry, wherein the print
25 processing system registry is adapted to compare the print job with the at least
one of the storage capability, the processing capability, and the printing
capability and determine whether the at least one of the storage capability, the
processing capability, and the printing capability is necessary for the print job,
and wherein the print job service provider is adapted to distribute the print job to
30 at least one of the print job storage provider if the storage capability is necessary
for the print job, the print job processing provider if the processing capability is

necessary for the print job, and the print job print provider if the printing capability is necessary for the print job.

4. The system of claim 1, wherein the print job service provider is
5 configured to communicate with the user via a communication network, and
wherein the print job service provider is adapted to receive the print job from the
user via the communication network.

5. The system of claim 1, wherein the print processing system registry is
10 configured to have the storage capability of the print job storage provider
registered therewith, wherein the print job service provider is adapted to
distribute the print job to the print job storage provider, and wherein the print job
storage provider is adapted to store the print job, the storage capability of the
print job storage provider including at least one of a storage term, a storage cost,
15 and a storage provider identification.

6. The system of claim 1, wherein the print processing system registry is
configured to have the processing capability of the print job processing provider
registered therewith, wherein the print job service provider is adapted to
20 distribute the print job to the print job processing provider, and wherein the print
job processing provider is adapted to process the print job, the processing
capability of the print job processing provider including at least one of a print
job conversion capability, a print job translation capability, a print job
enhancement capability, a processing cost, and a processing provider
25 identification.

7. The system of claim 1, wherein the print processing system registry is
configured to have the printing capability of the print job print provider
registered therewith, wherein the print job service provider is adapted to
30 distribute the print job to the print job print provider, and wherein the print job
print provider is adapted to print the print job, the printing capability of the print

job print provider including at least one of a file format compatibility, a print medium capability, a printing quality capability, a printing layout capability, a color printing capability, a finishing capability, a printing cost, and a print provider identification.

5

8. The system of claim 1, wherein the print processing system registry is configured to have a delivery capability of a print job delivery provider registered therewith, and wherein the print job delivery provider is adapted to deliver the print job to the user, the delivery capability of the print job delivery
10 provider including at least one of a delivery option, a delivery cost, and a delivery provider identification.

9. A system for processing a print job of a user, the system comprising:
a print processing system registry configured to have at least one of a
15 printing capability of a print job print provider, a processing capability of a print job processing provider, and a storage capability of a print job storage provider registered therewith; and

a print job service provider adapted to receive the print job from the user and submit the print job to the print processing system registry,
20 wherein the print processing system registry is adapted to determine if the at least one of the printing capability, the processing capability, and the storage capability is necessary for the print job, and

wherein the print job service provider is adapted to distribute the print job to at least one of the print job print provider if the printing capability is
25 necessary for the print job, the print job processing provider if the processing capability is necessary for the print job, and the print job storage provider if the storage capability is necessary for the print job.

10. The system of claim 9, wherein the print processing system registry is
30 configured to have the printing capability of the print job print provider registered therewith, wherein the print job service provider is adapted to

5 distribute the print job to the print job print provider, and wherein the print job
print provider is adapted to print the print job, the printing capability of the print
job print provider including at least one of a file format compatibility, a print
medium capability, a printing quality capability, a printing layout capability, a
color printing capability, a finishing capability, a printing cost, and a print
provider identification.

10 11. The system of claim 10, wherein the print processing system registry is
configured to have the processing capability of the print job processing provider
registered therewith, wherein the print job service provider is adapted to
distribute the print job to the print job processing provider, and wherein the print
job processing provider is adapted to process the print job, the processing
15 capability of the print job processing provider including at least one of a print
job conversion capability, a print job translation capability, a print job
enhancement capability, a processing cost, and a processing provider
identification.

20 12. The system of claim 10, wherein the print processing system registry is
configured to have the storage capability of the print job storage provider
registered therewith, wherein the print job service provider is adapted to
distribute the print job to the print job storage provider, and wherein the print job
storage provider is adapted to store the print job, the storage capability of the
print job storage provider including at least one of a storage term, a storage cost,
and a storage provider identification.

25 13. The system of claim 10, wherein the print processing system registry is
configured to have a delivery capability of a print job delivery provider
registered therewith, and wherein the print job delivery provider is adapted to
deliver the print job to the user, the delivery capability of the print job delivery
30 provider including at least one of a delivery option, a delivery cost, and a
delivery provider identification.

14. A system for processing a print job of a user, the system comprising:
a print processing system registry configured to have a printing capability
of a print job print provider and at least one of a storage capability of a print job
5 storage provider and a processing capability of a print job processing provider
registered therewith; and
a print job service provider adapted to receive the print job from the user
and submit the print job to the print processing system registry,
wherein the print processing system registry is adapted to determine if
10 the printing capability and the at least one of the storage capability and the
processing capability are necessary for the print job, and
wherein the print job service provider is adapted to distribute the print
job to the print job print provider if the printing capability is necessary for the
print job and at least one of the print job storage provider if the storage capability
15 is necessary for the print job and the print job processing provider if the
processing capability is necessary for the print job.
15. The system of claim 14, wherein the print processing system registry is
configured to have the storage capability of the print job storage provider and the
20 printing capability of the print job print provider registered therewith, and
wherein the print job service provider is adapted to distribute the print job to the
print job storage provider and the print job print provider.
16. The system of claim 14, wherein the print processing system registry is
25 configured to have the processing capability of the print job processing provider
and the printing capability of the print job print provider registered therewith,
and wherein the print job service provider is adapted to distribute the print job to
the print job processing provider and the print job print provider.
- 30 17. The system of claim 14, wherein the print processing system registry is
configured to have the storage capability of the print job storage provider, the

processing capability of the print job processing provider, and the printing capability of the print job print provider registered therewith, and wherein the print job service provider is adapted to distribute the print job to the print job storage provider, the print job processing provider, and the print job print
5 provider.

18. A method of processing a print job of a user, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a print processing system registry having at least one of a
10 storage capability of a print job storage provider, a processing capability of a print job processing provider, and a printing capability of a print job print provider registered therewith;

defining a communication network linking a print job service provider and at least one of the print job storage provider, the print job processing
15 provider, and the print job print provider;

receiving the print job at the print job service provider; and

distributing the print job to the at least one of the print job storage provider, the print job processing provider, and the print job print provider via the communication network.

20

19. The method of claim 18, wherein the step of defining the communication network further includes linking the print processing system registry with the at least one of the print job storage provider, the print job processing provider, and the print job print provider, and further comprising the step of:

25 registering the at least one of the storage capability of the print job storage provider, the processing capability of the print job processing provider, and the printing capability of the print job print provider with the print processing system registry via the communication network.

30 20. The method of claim 19, wherein the step of registering includes registering the storage capability of the print job storage provider with the print

processing system registry, including registering at least one of a storage term, a storage cost, and a storage provider identification.

21. The method of claim 19, wherein the step of registering includes
5 registering the processing capability of the print job processing provider with the print processing system registry, including registering at least one of a print job conversion capability, a print job translation capability, a print job enhancement capability, a processing cost, and a processing provider identification.

10 22. The method of claim 19, wherein the step of registering includes registering the printing capability of the print job print provider with the print processing system registry, including registering at least one of a file format compatibility, a print medium capability, a printing quality capability, a printing layout capability, a color printing capability, a finishing capability, a printing
15 cost, and a print provider identification.

23. The method of claim 18, wherein the step of defining the communication network further includes linking the print job service provider with the print processing system registry, and further comprising the steps of:

20 submitting the print job to the print processing system registry via the communication network; and

comparing the print job with the at least one of the storage capability of the print job storage provider, the processing capability of the print job processing provider, and the printing capability of the print job print provider.

25 24. The method of claim 18, wherein the step of defining the communication network further includes linking the print job service provider with the user, and wherein the step of receiving the print job includes receiving the print job at the print job service provider from the user via the communication network.

30

25. The method of claim 18, wherein the print processing system registry has the storage capability of the print job storage provider registered therewith, wherein the step of distributing the print job includes distributing the print job to the print job storage provider, and further comprising the step of:

5 storing the print job.

26. The method of claim 18, wherein the print processing system registry has the processing capability of the print job processing provider registered therewith, wherein the step of distributing the print job includes distributing the print job to the print job processing provider, and further comprising the step of:

10 processing the print job.

27. The method of claim 18, wherein the print processing system registry has the printing capability of the print job print provider registered therewith, wherein the step of distributing the print job includes distributing the print job to the print job print provider, and further comprising the step of:

15 printing the print job.

28. The method of claim 18, wherein the print processing system registry has a delivery capability of a print job delivery provider registered therewith, wherein the step of defining the communication network further includes linking the print processing system registry with the print job delivery provider, and further comprising the step of:

20 registering the delivery capability of the print job delivery provider with the print processing system registry via the communication network, including registering at least one of a delivery option, a delivery cost, and a delivery provider identification.

29. A method of processing a print job of a user, the method comprising the steps of:

30

providing a print processing system registry having print job processing services of a plurality of print processing system providers registered therewith;

defining a communication network linking a print job service provider, the print processing system registry, and the print processing system providers;

5 receiving the print job at the print job service provider;

submitting the print job via the communication network to the print processing system registry;

determining via the print processing system registry which of the print job processing services are necessary for the print job, including comparing the print job with the print job processing services of the print processing system providers; and

distributing the print job via the communication network to at least one of the print processing system providers which has the print job processing services necessary for the print job.

15

30. The method of claim 29, wherein the print job processing services of the print processing system providers include storage services of a print job storage provider, processing services of a print job processing provider, print services of a print job print provider, and delivery services of a print job delivery provider.

20

31. The method of claim 29, wherein the step of defining the communication network further includes linking the print processing system registry with the print processing system providers, and further comprising the step of:

registering the print job processing services of the print processing system providers with the print processing system registry via the communication network.

25

32. The method of claim 31, wherein the step of registering includes registering a storage capability of a print job storage provider with the print processing system registry, including registering at least one of a storage term, a storage cost, and a storage provider identification.

30

33. The method of claim 31, wherein the step of registering includes registering a processing capability of a print job processing provider with the print processing system registry, including registering at least one of a print job conversion capability, a print job translation capability, a print job enhancement capability, a processing cost, and a processing provider identification.
34. The method of claim 31, wherein the step of registering includes registering a printing capability of a print job print provider with the print processing system registry, including registering at least one of a file format compatibility, a print medium capability, a printing quality capability, a printing layout capability, a color printing capability, a finishing capability, a printing cost, and a print provider identification.
35. The method of claim 31, wherein the step of registering includes registering a delivery capability of a print job delivery provider with the print processing system registry, including registering at least one of a delivery option, a delivery cost, and a delivery provider identification.
36. The method of claim 29, wherein the step of defining the communication network further includes linking the print job service provider with the user, and wherein the step of receiving the print job includes receiving the print job at the print job service provider from the user via the communication network.
37. The method of claim 29, wherein the step of receiving the print job includes receiving a print request for the print job at the print job service provider, including receiving at least one of a storage option, a processing option, a file format, a print medium size, a print medium type, a number of copies, a printing quality option, a printing layout, a color printing option, a finishing option, a delivery option, and a user identification for the print job.

38. The method of claim 37, wherein the step of receiving the print job further includes receiving a data file for the print job at the print job service provider.